

PRIOR ART STATEMENT

Following are the prior art patents deemed pertinent at this time.

1. WO 01/64387 A1 Production, Forming, Bonding, Joining And Repair Systems For Composite and Metal Components by N. Graham, et al

Typical methods of joining structural elements together are disclosed. However no three-dimensional PI type fittings are disclosed.

2. US Patent No.: 6,446,675 Minimum Distortion 3D woven preforms by J. Goering

This patent discloses a method of 3D weaving a PI fitting. It is the forming of this PI fitting into curved shapes that is the subject matter of the subject invention.

3. US Patent No.: 6,007,319 Continuous Forming Of Complex Shapes by T. L. Jacobson.

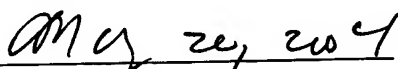
This patent is of interest only in that it discloses 3D weaving techniques. No PI fittings or methods of curving same are shown.

4. US Patent No.: 6,477,740 Stretch Breaking Of Fibers by N. W. Hansen.

This patent is of interest only in that it discloses the making of threads suitable for use in the subject process. The process locally breaks threads while maintaining a continuous thread.



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

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Applicant(s)
CARL REIS, ET AL.

Filing Date
UNKNOWN

Group Art Unit
UNKNOWN

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		US6,007,319	12/28/99	T. L. JACOBSON	425	140	
		US6,446,675B1	9/10/02	J. GOERING	139	11	
		WO 01/64387 A1	7/09/01	N. GRAHAM			
		6,477,740B1	11/12/02	N. W. HANSEN	19	35	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.